

Subpart C—Noncommercial Educational FM Broadcast Stations

§ 73.501 Channels available for assignment.

(a) The following frequencies, except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, are available for noncommercial educational FM broadcasting:

Frequency (MHz)	Channel No.
87.9	¹ 200
88.1	201
88.3	202
88.5	203
88.7	204
88.9	205
89.1	² 206
89.3	207
89.5	208
89.7	209
89.9	210
90.1	211
90.3	212
90.5	213
90.7	214
90.9	215
91.1	216
91.3	217
91.5	218
91.7	219
91.9	220

¹The frequency 87.9 MHz, Channel 200, is available only for use of existing Class D stations required to change frequency. It is available only on a noninterference basis with respect to TV Channel 6 stations and adjacent channel noncommercial educational FM stations. It is not available at all within 402 kilometers (250 miles) of Canada and 320 kilometers (199 miles) of Mexico. The specific standards governing its use are contained in § 73.512.

²The frequency 89.1 MHz, Channel 206, in the New York City metropolitan area, is reserved for the use of the United Nations with the equivalent of an antenna height of 150 meters (492 feet) above average terrain and effective radiated power of 20 kW and the Commission will make no assignments which would cause objectionable interference with such use.

(b) In Alaska, FM broadcast stations operating on Channels 200–220 (87.9–91.9 MHz) shall not cause harmful interference to and must accept interference from non-Government fixed operations authorized prior to January 1, 1982.

(Secs. 4, 5, 303, 48 Stat., as amended, 1066, 1068, 1082 (47 U.S.C. 154, 155, 303))

[43 FR 39715, Sept. 6, 1978, as amended at 47 FR 30068, July 12, 1982; 52 FR 43765, Nov. 16, 1987; 58 FR 44950, Aug. 25, 1993]

§ 73.503 Licensing requirements and service.

The operation of, and the service furnished by noncommercial educational FM broadcast stations shall be governed by the following:

(a) A noncommercial educational FM broadcast station will be licensed only to a nonprofit educational organization and upon showing that the station will be used for the advancement of an educational program.

(1) In determining the eligibility of publicly supported educational organizations, the accreditation of their respective state departments of education shall be taken into consideration.

(2) In determining the eligibility of privately controlled educational organizations, the accreditation of state departments of education and/or recognized regional and national educational accrediting organizations shall be taken into consideration.

(b) Each station may transmit programs directed to specific schools in a system or systems for use in connection with the regular courses as well as routine and administrative material pertaining thereto and may transmit educational, cultural, and entertainment programs to the public.

(c) A noncommercial educational FM broadcast station may broadcast programs produced by, or at the expense of, or furnished by persons other than the licensee, if no other consideration than the furnishing of the program and the costs incidental to its production and broadcast are received by the licensee. The payment of line charges by another station network, or someone other than the licensee of a noncommercial educational FM broadcast station, or general contributions to the operating costs of a station, shall not be considered as being prohibited by this paragraph.

(d) Each station shall furnish a nonprofit and noncommercial broadcast service. Noncommercial educational FM broadcast stations are subject to the provisions of § 73.1212 to the extent they are applicable to the broadcast of programs produced by, or at the expense of, or furnished by others. No *promotional* announcement *on behalf of for profit entities* shall be broadcast at any time in exchange for the receipt, in whole or in part, of consideration to the licensee, its principals, or employees. However, acknowledgements of

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contributions can be made. *The scheduling of any announcements and acknowledgements may not interrupt regular programming.*

(e) Mutually exclusive applications for noncommercial educational radio stations operating on reserved channels will be resolved pursuant to the point system in subpart K.

NOTE TO § 73.503: Commission interpretation on this rule, including the acceptable form of acknowledgements, may be found in the *Second Report and Order* in Docket No. 21136 (Commission Policy Concerning the Noncommercial Nature of Educational Broadcast Stations), 86 FCC 2d 141 (1981); the *Memorandum Opinion and Order* in Docket No. 21136, 90 FCC 2d 895 (1982), and the *Memorandum Opinion and Order* in Docket 21136, 97 FCC 2d 255 (1984). See also, "Commission Policy Concerning the Noncommercial Nature of Educational Broadcast Stations," Public Notice, 7 FCC Rcd 827 (1992), which can be retrieved through the Internet at <http://www.fcc.gov/mmb/asd/nature.html>.

(Secs. 4, 5, 303, 48 Stat., as amended, 1066, 1068, 1082 (47 U.S.C. 154, 155, 303))

[28 FR 13651, Dec. 14, 1963, as amended at 35 FR 7558, May 15, 1970; 47 FR 36178, Aug. 19, 1982; 49 FR 29069, July 18, 1984; 63 FR 33877, June 22, 1998; 65 FR 36378, June 8, 2000]

§ 73.504 Channel assignments in the Mexican border area.

(a) NCE-FM stations within 199 miles (320 km) of the United States-Mexican border shall comply with the separation requirements and other provisions of the "Agreement between the United States of America and the United Mexican States Concerning Frequency Modulation Broadcasting in the 88 to 108 MHz Band" as amended.

(b) Applicants for noncommercial educational FM stations within 199 miles (320 km) of the United States-Mexican border shall propose at least Class A minimum facilities (see § 73.211(a)). However, existing Class D noncommercial educational stations may apply to change frequency within the educational portion of the FM band in accordance with the requirements set forth in § 73.512.

(c) Section 73.208 of this chapter shall be complied with as to the determination of reference points and distance computations used in applications for new or changed facilities. However, if

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it is necessary to consider a Mexican channel assignment or authorization, the computation of distance will be determined as follows: if a transmitter site has been established, on the basis of the coordinates of the site; if a transmitter site has not been established, on the basis of the reference coordinates of the community, town, or city.

[52 FR 43765, Nov. 16, 1987]

§ 73.505 Zones.

For the purpose of assignment of noncommercial educational FM stations, the United States is divided into three zones, Zone I, Zone I–A, and Zone II, having the boundaries specified in § 73.205.

[42 FR 36828, July 18, 1977]

§ 73.506 Classes of noncommercial educational FM stations and channels.

(a) Noncommercial educational stations operating on the channels specified in § 73.501 are divided into the following classes:

(1) A Class D educational station is one operating with no more than 10 watts transmitter power output.

(2) A Class D educational (secondary) station is one operating with no more than 10 watts transmitter power output in accordance with the terms of § 73.512 or which has elected to follow these requirements before they become applicable under the terms of § 73.512.

(3) Noncommercial educational FM (NCE-FM) stations with more than 10 watts transmitter power output are classified as Class A, B1, B, C3, C2, C1, or C depending on the station's effective radiated power and antenna height above average terrain, and on the zone in which the station's transmitter is located, on the same basis as set forth in §§ 73.210 and 73.211 for commercial stations.

(b) Any noncommercial educational station except Class D may be assigned to any of the channels listed in § 73.501. Class D noncommercial educational FM stations applied for or authorized prior to June 1, 1980, may continue to